13: Heber and Heber D-8 (1914-25) 1926 AJ4 W. Tibetans AJ4

142 unaccustomed to washing, but well-acquainted with smoky
fires. Their long coats reach just below the knees, and are
291 cut without shape or form of any kind. The fronts of these
over-lap, and in lieu of buttons they wear a long, broad
kammerband round their waists to keep their coats closed.
On the lapels of these garments are broad strips of nicely-
coloured flannel. The Changpas are shod with long boots
reaching up to the knees, red in colour and with very thick
342 soles. Their tents, to European eyes, seem to be just about
as ridiculous as tents can be; but then the Changpa does
not go into them for protection from the rain as we do, but
[132] from the wind. Although in these high uplands there is
plenty of rain, for it seemed to be pouring or snowing most of
the time we were up there, he considers that the wind is the
worse of two evils, for in a high wind you cannot make a fire
to boil your tea. He therefore makes his tent so that the
wind shall find it difficult to get in, while the smoke of the
fire inside shall have an easy egress. To do this he leaves
the top of his canvas home absolutely open to the sky. His
shelter consists merely of two sides of black cloth made from
yak's hair, of which the upper two corners only are fastened
together and fixed on the top of upright poles whilst the lower
corners are fastened to the ground. These tents are so low
that, if the Changpa wants to see what his sheep are doing,
he has only to stand up and put his head and shoulders out
of his " chimney " to view the landscape, when he resembles
nothing more closely than a released jack-in-the-box. Inside
their tents these pastoral people sleep, cook their meals, and
keep their goods and chattels, while grazing around are
their horses, yaks, and sheep—a simple life indeed.

133 Pobrang itself is a very pretty place, consisting of a long
stretch of grass lying among sandy mountains with the usual
snow-covered peaks behind. Through it there run many
● 226 delightful rivulets in which the snow-trout are so abundant
that in quite a short space of time we pulled out about sixty,

13: Heber and Heber D-3 (1914-25) 1926 AJ4 W. Tibetans AJ4

two of which weighed about one pound. And how unsophisticated they were. At first we fished with a kind of larva as bait, but this was scarce, and we had to try how small chunks of mutton would do. They proved successful, and were taken with avidity. We were told that during the autumn the natives caught them in basketfuls, for at that time of the year they go upstream every night, to return in the morning, when they are trapped and then dried, thus providing meat for the winter.

From here we ascended the Kiula Pass, and on our way met our first flock of Changpa sheep, which were slowly grazing their way up the pass. The largest of them was carrying a load, which proved to be the shepherd's bedding and food. The weight did not seem to trouble the sheep at all, nor lessen its enjoyment of the grass. In this country sheep have to carry all sorts of things. Sometimes it is salt for selling in Leh, where its carrier is turned into mutton, and flavoured from its load. At other times it is bales of wool or it may be borax. Our camp that night was pitched at 17,000 feet, and was bitterly cold. This camp really must be described, for it was a fascinating picture.

The camping ground was so small and withal so terribly rocky and uneven, that a Public Health Officer of Camps, did such exist, would have condemned it for overcrowding. There were all sorts and conditions of tents ranging from the imposing ones of the B.J.C., in front of which flew the Union Jack, and the Wazir's, flying the flag of Kashmir, down to the airy tent of the Changpa. To our left were about thirty yaks, laden and ready to start off with our second lot of camp equipment to the next halting place, for now we are travelling *de luxe*, and we like to find our camp ready when we arrive, making it unnecessary to wait exposed to the cold wind. In the centre of the camp are the horses which have brought us to-day, tethered to each other by their forelegs. What are those sheep doing to our left? They look